Groves Texas – 1/18/59
Bridge City, Texas – 9/14/63
Texas, Vidor,   2/28/65 ③
                             8/26/78

Bridge City, TX   9/8/80
Anahuac, TX   11/26/89 – 7/7/96
Vidor   TX   11/26/89   – KSHN 8/18/02

MAN***CREATURES OF CHOICE

INTRODUCTION: Deut 30:15-20
1. Words spoken to Israelites by Moses just before his death.
2. They were about ready to enter into the promised land-Canaan
3. God placed a choice before them.
4. God has always placed a choice before man; in fact man is a
   creature of choice.
5. Joshua 24:15--"choose ye this day whom ye shall serve...."

BODY:

I. God, in the creation, place man on the earth with the right
   to make his own choices.
   1. Adam and Eve: Told them what to do and what not to do.
        He left it to them to do the choosing.
        Blessings as long as choose right; cursings when wrong

II. GOD HAS SET CERTAIN THINGS BEFORE US FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE:
   1. Good and evil----Deut 30:15
   2. Truth and error----1 Tim 2:4--"Who would have all men to
        be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth."
              2 Thess 2:10-12
   3. Salvation and condemnation---Mark 16:15,16
   4. Life and death----Deut 30:15
   5. Heaven and Hell----Mt 7:13-14--Broad and narrow way.
        Man must choose between these things.
        Either we choose to please God or we choose to please
            self and displease the Father.
        God would have us choose Good, truth, salvation, life,
               and heaven. *But WE must choose.*

III. God sent His own Son to give us a way of salvation:
   1. John 3:16
   2. 1 Cor 15:1-3--"Christ died according to the scriptures."

IV. YET GOD FORCES NO ONE TO CHOOSE HIS WAYS, PARDONING LOVE:
   1. 2 Peter 3:9--"God is not willing that any should perish
        but that all should come to repentance."
   2. Heb 2:9--"Christ tasted death for all men."
   3. Yet--Heb 5:8-9 - *To those who OBEY*
   4. Phil 2:5-11--Christ made right choice--we must choose to
        obey.

V. THUS MAN MUST CHOOSE; BUT IN WHAT DOES MAN HAVE A CHOICE:

   DOES HE HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE HOW TO OBEY GOD?????

   IF WE CHOOSE TO SERVE GOD, WE MUST SERVE GOD THE WAY THAT
   HE INSTRUCTS US TO DO SERVICE.

EXAMPLES:
   1. Noah was commanded to build ark; 300 by 50 by 30 cubits.
        Make it of Gopher wood.---Specific command
        Noah had a choice to make--he could build or not build.
        But if he choose to build, he had to build it according
            to God's instruction.

   2. Moses building the tabernacle--Heb 8:5   *100x50cu. furniture*
                                                   30x10 cu.
        Moses and the children of Israel had a choice--they
            could build or could refuse to build.
        If they chose to build, had no choice as to how to build
   BRAZEN SERPENT - LOOK
   3. The church---Built upon Christ--1 Cor 3:11
        Some who say church is built on another foundation, but
            not the Church of our Lord.
        This church must be build according to God's instruction
            if we choose to build it at all.

   4. Lord's Supper--Mt 26:26-28; 1 Cor 11:22-29 ; Acts 20:7
        Man has the choice about the Lord's Supper; he can
            partake of it or refuse to partake of it.
        But if he decides to partake of it, he must partake of
            it on 1st Day of week, must be bread and fruit of V
        Not at liberty to put ice cream and cake on L. S.

   5. IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO DO SOMETHING: UNLESS IT IS DONE
        ACCORDING TO GOD'S PLAN, INSTRUCTIONS: WILL: WORD.
        This resulted in the many religious bodies in our land.
        They are content to do, without asking if this is the
            way that God wants it done.   z

   6. GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION:
        1. Faith---Man can choose to believe or not.
        2. Repentance--
        3. Confession---
        4. Baptism---Can choose to be baptized or not to be.
             But if choose to be baptized, have no right to
                 choose how to be baptized.
             Cannot choose to be sprinkled, poured, etc.
             It does make a difference how things are done.
             Doing it is not enough, unless it is done in
                 accordance to God's plan, will, etc.

VI. WHEN SHOULD WE MAKE OUR CHOICE?????
        1. Acts 24:35--Felix--not now, more convenient time.
        2. 2 Cor 6:2 --Today is the day of salvation.
        3. Heb 3:15---Today if you will hear his voice, harden not
                 your heart.

CONCLUSION:
   1. You must make a choice now, what shall it be?
   2. *Deut. 30:20- Love, Obey, Cleave to God*